GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:121
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
. INDUSTRIALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrially backward districts in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out the reasons for industrial backwardness of these districts;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has any specific plan for industrial development of these districts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (c) : Various studies in the past have sought to identify industrially backward regions in the country. More recently, with a view to focus on districts specific cases of industrial backwardness, inter-departmental meetings have been held and the relevant data available is being analysed to finalise and implement concrete policy decisions to address purposively the causes of industrial backwardness in various districts in a calibrated manner.

(d) & (e): After the announcement of New Industrial Policy in 1991, decisions of investment have been left to the commercial judgment of the entrepreneurs. The role played by the Government has changed from that of exercising control to providing help and guidance by making essential procedures fully transparent and by eliminating delays. The initiative for industrial development of backward areas primarily lies on the State Governments. The Union Government supplement their effort through various schemes. These schemes play an important role in stimulating flow of capital to the backward areas. There are following schemes for the development of industries with some of them focusing on specific areas under implementation by this Department:

(i) Growth Centre Scheme;

(ii) Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS);

(iii) Transport Subsidy Scheme;

(iv) North Eastern Industrial & Investment Promotion Policy, 2007 (NEIIPP); and

(v) New Industrial Policy and other concession for Special Category States.